

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Governor Urges Legislators to Drop 5% Provision and Authorize Administrative Leave For Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Jackson, Miss. – Governor Ronnie Musgrove urged legislators to remove the 5% growth rate condition on pay raises for teachers, and to authorize state agencies to allow administrative leave for employees to attend parent-teacher conferences during a press conference held at Rouse Elementary School today.

“I continue to urge legislators to remove the 5% condition on teacher pay raises,” said the Governor. “Education must be our first priority in Mississippi. The 5% provision says our teachers are not a priority. It says that education is not a priority.”

The Governor also urged the members of the House and Senate to pass legislation, which would authorize state agencies to allow administrative leave for employees to attend parent-teacher conferences. “I believe teachers will tell you how important it is for their students to have parents who are informed and involved in their child’s education,” said Governor Musgrove.

The legislation gives parents the opportunity to attend meetings with their child’s teacher without having to take personal leave time. “We want our parents to have the opportunity to be more involved with their child’s education.”

“It takes all of us, teachers and parents, working together, doing everything we can to see that our children receive an exceptional education,” said the Governor. “We are making education a top priority in Mississippi.”

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